

Dear Legislative Committee-

My name is Maris Pelkey. I am a resident of Cheshire and I am the Director of Early Intervention services at Creative Interventions which is a provider of ABA services throughout Connecticut. I am writing today to express my strong support for licensure of Behavior Analysts. I am in support of licensure as I am a BCBA and am proud to be one of the 548 CT residents who are certified Behavior Analysts. Behavior analysis is a well recognized, evidence-based and highly effective treatment for many people with and without disabilities. By passing legislation regarding licensure, you will allow CT to join with 19 other states, including NY, MA, and RI in allowing consumers to access high quality, licensed providers of behavior analysis. I would like to support SB 292 however, modifications must be made to the bill. Specifically, the requirement of licensure of assistant behavior analysts. If passed with the current wording, it has the potential to leave a number of current consumers of ABA services without access to high quality services as it doesn't allow for direct line staff to continue work under a licensed Behavior Analyst or Assistant Behavior Analyst. If this is amended, I will be in full support of SB 292.

Thank you for your time and support,

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